FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.98**

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TO: The Honorable John E. Courson, Chairman, Senate Education Committee

FROM: Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board

ANALYSTS: Harry Bell, Tricia Tangney

DATE: February 1, 2005 SBD: 2005154

AUTHOR: Senator Reese PRIMARY CODE CITE: 59-63-110

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES: See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES: See Below

BILL SUMMARY:

SUBJECT:

Senate Bill 98 would enact the Safe Schools Act. Among other things, the Bill would require each school district to adopt a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying at school.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

State Department of Education (SDE)

Safe Schools Act

SDE anticipates non-recurring costs of less than \$9,000 for developing model policies and conducting a train the trainer workshop. Section 59-63-140 (G) states that to the extent funds are appropriated school districts shall provide training on each district's policies and develop a process for discussing those policies with students. Therefore, any potential impact to the General Fund of the State and/or Education Improvement Act funds is at the General Assembly's discretion.

Attorney General

The Office reports an annual cost to the General Fund of approximately \$2,200 to operate the 1-800-NO-BULLY phone line. The agency indicates that it is unable to absorb that cost.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:

Don Addy

Assistant Director, Office of State Budget